



September 4, 1959

On file USDA release instructions apply.

Dear John:

As we have discussed, the Dept. of Agriculture has a problem of making duplicates of some 3,400,000 feet of old (circa 1940) nitrate film. There are several ways in which this problem might be solved. We might recommend that the work be done by others, but this could be a tricky job and I suspect our Company has the most experience in handling the work. Of course, we could also offer to sell the Dept. of Agriculture equipment to do the job but here there would be even less familiarity with the operation as well as an expensive capital investment.

We also could offer to do the work elsewhere in the Company, but I have wondered if it would not be of advantage to you to have us do the work in my shop. Since our contract with you is substantially on an annual basis regardless of footage output, such a job would enable us to fill in the valleys and by charging the Dept. of Agriculture for this work, thus relieve you of an appreciable expenditure. I know of no sense of urgency in their project (in fact it probably should be spaced over several years) so we could give priority to your requirements whenever you needed our full facility.

Undoubtedly this would result in wear and tear to the equipment but this should be of a minor nature and, in any event, I would propose to charge this to the other customer.

I do not believe security to be a problem. I see no reason why the Dept. of Agriculture should be interested in exactly where the work might be done other than that the Company will do it. They should be concerned only with the product and that can be handled by a suitable cutout system.

At your convenience, would you let me know whether you look with favor on our trying to obtain this work and handling it in the manner stated above.

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